(65)-1804-In Amsterdam, the Venice of The Netherlands, and Canal N. to Zuider Kerk, Holland. Copyright 1904 by Underwood & Underwood.

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Works and Lands of Western Canada

We are looking nearly north. Antwerp and Brussels and Paris are behind us, Paris nearly 300 miles away; Berlin and Warsaw are at the east (right); London is only about 200 miles distant at the left, beyond the North Sea.

Artists come half around the world to sketch this picturesque old waterway with the thick-leaved trees and the quaint old houses and the bridge and the boats (there are always boats of some sort here) and that stately church-tower looking over the shoulders of the nearer buildings to see its own shimmering reflection.

There are canals innumerable here in Amsterdam—they say the original site of the city consisted of one hundred islands and a marsh—but this one is a particular favorite since a few clever artists "discovered" it a generation ago and sent people flocking here to see. We are in the central part of the town looking north. The famous picture galleries of the Rijks Museum are three-quarters of a mile away, behind us at the south. The church tower is partly of brick and partly of stone; it belongs to the Zuiderkerk or South Church, built three hundred years ago. It is 237 feet high, and there is a fine old chime of bells up there under the curious, bulb-shaped dome.

The town just here looks sleepy, but it has a population of nearly half a million and carries on important manufacturing industries, besides being one of the greatest trade centres of Europe. It was a place of powerful guilds and of merchant-princes three centuries ago and their wealth made possible the development of Holland's marvelously good work in art.

See:—

E. de Amicis: *Holland.*
P. M. Hough: *Dutch Life in Town and Country.*
A. J. C. Hare: *Holland and Scandinavia.*
M. M. Dodge: *The Silver Skates* (for children).

In Amsterdam, Holland the Venice of the North.

A Amsterdam, Hollande, La Venise du Nord.

In Amsterdam, Holland, dem Venedig d. 3 Nordens.

En Amsterdam, Holanda la Venecia del Norte.

I Amsterdam, Holland Nordens Venedig.

Голландскій городъ Амстердамъ, Венеція сѣвера.